

Appl. No. 10/729,802
Amdt. dated April 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2007

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed February 27, 2007 the Abstract was objected to. Applicants inadvertently did not address this objection in the response filed March 26, 2007, and do so herewith.

The objection was discussed in a telephonic interview with the Examiner on April 12, 2007. Applicants and Applicants' undersigned representative wish to thank Examiner Robinson for the courtesies shown in the interview.

The basis for the objection was that the abstract did not completely describe the disclosed subject matter and that in many foreign countries the abstract is crucial in defining the disclosed subject matter. It was suggested that the inclusion of the structure of the PKS (Seq. ID NO:1) be included.

Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants believe the description in the Abstract is complete. Applicants submit that, although it may have been true 20 years ago that the abstract was the critical resource in some foreign countries, this is no longer the case. A variety of searching methods can be done at no charge using the PTO database, including full-text and claims searching. Moreover, addition of a reference to "SEQ ID NO:1" would not make the abstract more useful to someone relying on the abstract, because the >75,000 base sequence could, and necessarily would have to be, accessed outside the abstract. However, in view of the Examiner's comments, applicants have amended the Abstract as shown.

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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Randolph Ted Apple
Reg. No. 36,429

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 650-326-2422
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